

Staff Report – January, 2006

Committee Planning and Reports

This year is the first of the Policy and Organization Group (POG) new procedures for more future oriented triennial plans, thinking about critical and cross-cutting issues. Those triennial reports are due from all POG committees on April 15, 2006. Guidelines for the reports are available on the POG web site, <http://www.trb.org/Committees/AB000/>. (Those committees submitting TSEs in April, 2005 won't need to do reports until the next three year cycle. Those exempted are ABJ10, ABJ20, ABJ30, ABJ40, ABJ70.)

Meetings and Conferences

Sixth National Conference on Asset Management, December 1-3, 2006, Kansas City covered a broad range of topics that will be of interest to agencies that are in the early stages of implementation of asset management as well as agencies that are in later stages of the implementation process.

Census Data for Transportation Planning: Preparing for the Future, May 11-13, 2005, Irvine, CA, examined the use of the decennial census data for transportation and explored the implications of the Census Bureau's transition to the American Community annual survey to replace the Census long form.

Using Geospatial Technologies for Asset Management: A Peer Exchange on Current Practice and Key New Initiatives, October 30-31, Kansas City was an opportunity for teams from five states to better understand how geospatial technologies can enhance transportation asset management initiatives.

Data Requirements in Transportation Reauthorization Legislation Conference, December 8-9, Washington, DC identified and refined the data issues associated with surface transportation reauthorization legislation programmatic proposals. Participants suggested efficient data strategies for transportation organizations.

Future Events

Visualization in the Changing Transportation World. Denver, April 25-28, 2006

Environmental Geospatial Information for Transportation (by invitation), May 3-4, 2006 will convene a multidisciplinary group to present their applications of environmental geospatial information for transportation, discuss common approaches and issues, and consider methods to facilitate adoption by other organizations. Participants will represent expertise in information technology, geospatial information technologies and environmental applications in transportation.

Preparations are underway for the **North American Travel Monitoring Exposition and Conference**, June 4-7, 2006, Minneapolis, www.natmec.org, a forum for exchange and dissemination of information related to the collection, management, and use of monitored traffic data. In order to provide the most relevant information, a web-based dialogue with the traffic data community developed a set of session topics. Then experienced professionals were invited propose their relevant knowledge and experience on those topics. The Early Bird Registration deadline is February 15.

Challenges of Data for Performance Measures Workshop, July 8, 2006 is a workshop for representatives from public sector transportation organizations to share experiences and discuss key issues relating to the data sources used to support performance measures. The workshop will serve as a forum for dialog between the data and performance measurement communities to better understand both how data is developed and how they are used, and to suggest possible improvements in data and measures.

The **TRB Summer Conference** will be in San Diego, July 9-11, 2006. The program content will address TRB's critical issues. See www.trb.org/conferences/jointsummer/2006. The Freight Data Committee (ABJ90) is the only committee I staff planning to participate.

Initiatives

Metadata

The Data and Information Systems Section defined important elements and challenges of Transportation Metadata – information about data or datasets – across the diverse transportation research communities. This work resulted in a section subcommittee, chaired by Frances Harrison to further the use of metadata in order to expand the use of data resources and allow better integration of data. Enhanced metadata will make data integration for asset management a more straightforward and meaningful exercise.

Transportation Information Needs Assessment

The Working Group for Technical Activities Division will coordinate and synthesize relevant information from the standing committee for this forthcoming policy study. The working group results will also be used to set directions for the data committee activities.

Publications

Enhancing the Value of Data Programs, E-C077

In process

Sixth National Conference on Asset Management draft is complete and awaiting TRB approval, final editing and layout. Expect this circular to be posted in March, 2006

Using Geospatial Technologies for Asset Management Electronic Circular

Data Requirements in Transportation Reauthorization Legislation Conference, Electronic Circular

Census for Transportation Planning: Preparing for the Future, Conference Proceedings

Midyear Meeting

With the AASHTO Asset Management in Travers City, MI, July 18-19, 2006